

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 03159 272050Z  
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-10 ARA-06 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 IO-13  
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PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 /128 W  
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R 271756Z APR 77  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6886  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
USMISSION NATO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O.11652: NA  
TAGS: PARM, CCD  
SUBJECT: CCD: WESTERN GROUP MEETING, APRIL 27, 1977

1. SUMMARY: WESTERN GROUP HELD FINAL MEETING OF CCD  
SPRING SESSION MORNING, APRIL 27. AMONG ISSUES DISCUSSED  
WERE ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS REGARDING SEABED ARMS CONTROL  
TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE, THE SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS  
DURING THE SUMMER SESSION ON NEW MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS  
(MDW)N AND THE ITALIAN PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHING AN AD HOC  
WORKING GROUP ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS. UK REP PROPOSED SUBMITTING  
FORMAL REQUEST TO REVISE NATO/NAC REQUIREMENT FOR SUBMISSION  
OF REPORT ON CCD SESSIONS BY NATO MEMBER PARTICIPANTS IN  
CCD. END SUMMARY

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 03159 272050Z

2. THE FINAL MEETING OF WESTERN GROUP FOR 1977 SPRING  
SESSION OF CCD WAS HELD MORNING, APRIL 27 WITH ITALIAN  
REF (D BERNARDO) IN CHAIR. CANADIAN ALTERNATE REP (SIMARD)  
REPORTED THAT MOST, IF NOT ALL, MEMBERS OF WESTERN EUROPEAN  
AND OTHERS GROUP WHO ARE ALSO PARTIES TO SEABED TREATY AGREE  
WITH GROUP'S CANDIDATES FOR BUREAU WHICH INCLUDE CANADA FOR  
CHAIRMAN OF DRAFTING COMMITTEE, AND ITALY, NETHERLANDS AND

NORWAY FOR VICE PRESIDENTS (ALONG WITH US AND UK WHO ARE AUTOMATICALLY INCLUDED AS DEPOSITARIES.) IN THIS REGARD HE SAID THAT THE FINNISH POSITION WAS THE MAIN UNCERTAINTY SINCE THEY HAD INDICATED SOME UNHAPPINESS BUT HAD NOT YET PROVIDED SPECIFICS. IT WAS AGREED THAT AS SOON AS THERE IS FIRM CONSENSUS IN WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP ON CANDIDATES THAT EFFORT SHOULD BE MOUNTED BOTH IN GENEVA AND NEW YORK TO PROMOTE WESTERN CANDIDATE FOR CHAIRMAN OF DRAFTING COMMITTEE.

3. US REP REPORTED THAT USSR REP (LIKHACHEV) HAD AGREED TO GO ALONG WITH NETHERLANDS REP'S PROPOSAL THAT CCD TAKE PROVISIONAL DECISION TO HOLD MDW MEETINGS IN EARLY AUGUST (SEE PARA 5, GENEVA 3125). JAPANESE REP, AS WELL AS CANADIAN REP, FELT MDW TALKS SHOULD BE HELD EARLIER IN SUMMER SESSION THAN AUGUST 8 SO AS TO ALLOW MORE TIME TO DEAL WITH PRIORITY ISSUES SUCH AS CW AND CTB. FRG REP (SCHLAICH) AND NETHERLANDS REP BOTH AGREED IT MIGHT BE WISER TO LEAVE TIMING DECISIONS OPEN UNTIL SUMMER SESSION; US REP SUPPORTED TAKING PROVISIONAL DECISION ON SCHEDULING OF MDW TALKS AS WAY OF SATISFYING USSR DEL WHILE MAINTAINING FLEXIBILITY IN SUMMER WORK PROGRAM.

4. ITALIAN REP REMINDED WESTERN GROUP, ONCE MORE, THAT ITALIAN DEL HAD FORMALLY SUBMITTED PROPOSAL TO CCD TO SET UP AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON CW AND THAT NO ACTION HAD BEEN TAKEN YET. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD REINTRODUCE ITALIAN PROPOSAL DURING APRIL 28 PLENARY AND ASK CCD TO TAKE A DECISION TO SET UP WORKING GROUP DURING SUMMER SESSION. US REP SAID THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO OBJECT TO CCD TAKING DECISION AT THIS TIME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 03159 272050Z

TO SET UP CW WORKING GROUP SINCE USG HAD NOT YET MADE BASIC POLICY DECISIONS AND WISHED TO AVOID PREMATURE NEGOTIATIONS. IN VIEW OF THIS, ITALIAN REP SAID HE WOULD NOT PRESS FOR DECISION ON ITALIAN PROPOSAL AT THIS TIME. FRG REP SUGGESTED THAT CCD TAKE NOTE OF ITALIAN PROPOSAL WITHOUT TAKING DECISION TO ESTABLISH GROUP; US REP SAID SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO US DEL. ITALIAN REP SAID HE FEARED TAKING DECISION ON MDW PROPOSAL WOULD CAUSE "CHAIN REACTION" AMONG OTHER DELS TO REITERATE THEIR PROPOSALS (I.E., MEXICO AND SWEDEN MIGHT BRING UP THEIR RESPECTIVE CTB AND PROGRAM WORKING GROUP PROPOSALS) AND THAT IF THIS OCCURS HE WOULD HAVE TO ASK CCD TO TAKE DECISION ON ITALIAN PROPOSAL. US REP REITERATED US DEL NEGATIVE REACTION TO TAKING DECISION ON ESTABLISHMENT OF ANY WORKING GROUP AT THIS TIME.

5. UK REP (ASHE) REMINDED WORKING GROUP OF NATO/NAC REQUIREMENT THAT NATO-MEMBER PARTICIPANTS IN CCD (UK, US, FRG, (,35#34)-,\$ , ITALY AND CANADA) SUBMIT REPORT ON CCD SESSIONS FOR COUNCIL AND SUGGESTED FORMALLY REQUESTING

REVISION TO BURDENSOME AND TIME-CONSUMING  
REPORT REQUIREMENT. (COMMENT: RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREPARATIONS  
OF REPORT ROTATES AMONG SIX DELS; FRG HAS RESPONSIBILITY THIS  
YEAR.) MEMBER UK DEL (KENYON) SUGGESTED SHARING PLENARY  
REPORTING CABLES AND US ALTERNATE REP (TURRENTINE) SUGGESTED  
SUPPLYING COUNCIL WITH CCD COMMUNIQUE, WHICH NOW CONTAIN  
CONSIDERABLE INFORMATION, AS ALTERNATIVES. IT WAS AGREED  
THAT UK DEL WOULD PREPARE LETTER, SUGGESTING REVISION TO  
REQUIREMENT, FOR ALL DELS TO SIGN AND FORWARD TO NAC.

6. NEXT MEETING OF WESTERN GROUP IS SCHEDULED FOR MORNING,  
JULY 5, PRIOR TO OPENING OF 1977 CCD SUMMER SESSION. SORENSON

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## Message Attributes

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